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JUL 23 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: HOFFMAN, ET AL

Serial No.: 09/847,134

Group Art Unit 1616

Filed: 05/02/01

Examiner: JONES, Dameron Levast

For: GASTRIN RECEPTOR-AVID PEPTIDE CONJUGATES

Attorney Docket No.: 0994.00131

OFFICIAL

*fees processed*AMENDMENTMail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 23, 2004, Paper Number 20. Applicant hereby petitions for a one-month extension of time within which to respond to the outstanding Office Action. Granting the petition would extend the time for filing the Response to July 23, 2004. Enclosed herewith is our check in the amount of \$55.00 in payment thereof. Please amend the application as follows:

09/01/2004 CBETANCO 00000003 111449 09847134

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USSN 09/847,134

Attorney Docket No. 0994.00131

REMARKS

Claims 3-6, 8-13, 15-36, 38-45, and 47-61 are currently pending in the application. Claim 3, 15, 38, and 53 are in Independent form.

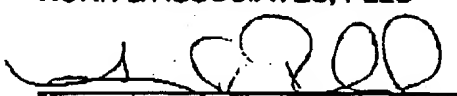
Claims 4, 6, 11, 17, 19, 33, 41, 42, 49, 50, 58, and 61 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Office Action has held that the claims are ambiguous because of the phrases "and derivatives thereof" and "or a derivative thereof". The claims have been amended to remove this language and reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the present amendment and foregoing remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and advancement of the case to issue are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 11-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

KOHN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC



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Date: July 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile (703) 872-9306 to the Patent and Trademark Office on July 23, 2004.



Connie Herty